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# THE TRANSFORMERS
# MEGATRON
## ORIGIN

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# THE TRANSFORMERS

# MEGATRON

## ORIGIN

***The Forge***

**CYBERTRON**. While corrupt Senators hoard profits from state energy supplies, the growing numbers of unemployed cannot even find the means by which to fuel themselves.

When the Senate elects to automate yet another off-planet mine and make all employees redundant, the betrayed miners rebel. The security forces come down hard. The result—a massacre. Key workers are held responsible. En route to prison, they make a desperate bid for freedom by commandeering their shuttlecraft and fleeing to one of the most troubled population centers in all the city-states—**KAON**—a place where life has no value and death sometimes has a price...

# THE TRANSFORMERS: MEGATRON ORIGIN


WRITTEN BY ERIC HOLMES
ART BY ALEX MILNE (PAGES 1-11, 20-22)
MARCELO MATERE (PAGES 12-19)
COLORS BY JOSH PEREZ
LETTERS BY CHRIS MOWRY AND ROBBIE ROBBINS
EDITS BY CHRIS RYALL



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THE CYBERTRON SYSTEM.

LONG AGO. *PEACETIME.*

MINING OUTPOST C-12.

"I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE HAVE TO BE HERE. CAN'T WE JUST... PUSH A BUTTON AND BE DONE WITH IT?"

"THE LAW SAYS THIS SORT OF THING HAS TO BE DECLARED ON-SITE. FORMALITIES."

"I DON'T LIKE IT..."

THEY WON'T LIKE IT, SENATOR DECIMUS.

LIKING IT ISN'T THE POINT.

WE'RE ON STATION.

VERY WELL. TELL THEM SENATOR DECIMUS IS HERE— AND TO INITIATE ASSEMBLY.

WE ALL HAVE OUR JOBS TO DO, HMM?

EACH A COG IN THE GREAT MACHINE, YOU MIGHT SAY.

"THESE PLACES ARE PITIFUL.

"DEGENERATE SCUM, CAPABLE OF SWINGING SOME HEAVY TOOL OR CARRYING AN ARDUOUS LOAD. APPLY HERE-HMM?

"WE NEED THE MINES.

"WE NEED THE ENERGON."

"THAT'S THE WAY **CONTROL** WORKS.

"THE ONLY THINGS WE DON'T NEED ARE THESE GHASTLY **WRECKS.**

"AT THE END OF THE CYCLE, YOU'RE RIGHT... THEY WON'T LIKE IT.

"BUT PERHAPS YOU'RE CONFUSING ME WITH SOMEONE WHO CARES? THAT'S WHAT OUR **SECURITY** IS FOR, HMM?"

THE ASSEMBLY.

AS YOU KNOW, THE HUB HAS BEEN FACING CHALLENGES, AND AS ALWAYS, WE SEEK TO STREAMLINE IN EVERY WAY THAT WE CAN.

YOU CAN REST EASY. THE SENATE THANKS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION. YOUR HARD WORK HERE IS AT AN END.

THAT'S RIGHT. FOR ALL OF YOU, THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST CYCLE WORKING ON ORBITING MINE C-12.

I KNOW THIS HAS BEEN LIKE A HOME TO MANY OF YOU. THE SENATE WILL HELP YOU FIND NEW HOMES—AND NEW ASSIGNMENTS!

THE SENATE TAKES CARE OF ITS PEOPLE.

THERE'S STILL FUEL IN THIS MINE. IT'S NOT DRY... Y'ALL AT THE SENATE KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

OH... THAT'S RIGHT, HMM. FOR SURE— WE'VE TRACKED THIS LOCATION AND IT'S ABSOLUTELY NO FAULT OF THE MINE ITSELF. I ASSURE YOU—

THEN IT'S ***AUTOMATION.*** MOVING IN YER DAMN INSTALLATION AND SENTINELS TO GET THIS PLACE RUNNIN' CHEAP—AIN'T IT?!

NOW, NOW, I ASSURE YOU—SUCH HEARSAY—

Y'ALL KNOW HOW THIS WORKS! THEM GREEDY PARASITES ARE AUTOMATIN' MINE AFTER MINE! Y'ALL KNOW WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT! NONE OF YA ARE HERE BECAUSE OF THE ***GOOD TIMES!***

THERE'S PLENTY OF FUEL TO GO AROUND YET MOST OF US ***HERE*** ARE DAMN NEAR ***RUNNING ON EMPTY!***

AND NOW YOU WANT TO ***KICK US*** OUT AND SHAKE OUR PAWS AND HAVE US SAY ***THANK YOU?!***

THE SENATE WILL ***TAKE AND TAKE*** UNTIL THEY'RE TOLD TO STOP! UNTIL THEY'RE ***MADE TO STOP!***

YOU ALL KNOW IT'S ***TRU—*** THWACK

***GET BACK.***

WHU—HELP! AHHHHH!

THWACK THWACK THWACK

FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION. CAN'T YOU PEOPLE SEE THIS?

NOW GET BACK.

UGH . GUK...

GET BACK.

WORKERS.. BROTHERS! NOW IF YOU'LL JUST STAY CALM, I'LL TAKE US THROUGH THE TERMS OF THE FACILITY REDESIGNATION...

I THINK GIVEN THE CONDITIONS YOU'LL FIND THE TERMS QUITE GENEROUS, HMM?

THE SENATE IS MAKING SURE YOU GET EXACTLY WHAT YOU DESER—

—ARRRG!

THUNK

SENATOR!

DEPLOY THE—

KRRRUNCH

HEH...

BLASTERS!

HRR...

HRRRRR!

NO...

...NO.

BRACE!

MURDERERS!

TAKE 'EM APART!

HANG ON, SENATOR.

WHAT...

WHAT. . DID I...

NO... NONONO...

OH NO.

GET THEM NOW! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! DO IT BEFORE THEY KILL US ALL!

READY. AIM—

FIRE AT WILL!

KRSHACK

ZAKT

THAT'S *ENOUGH*...

"...CONSIDER THEM PACIFIED!"

"WHAT'S NEXT?"

"PRISON IF WE'RE LUCKY—A BREAKDOWN IF WE'RE NOT. ALL BECAUSE OF HIM."

"THAT ONE— IS HE DEAD?"

"DUNNO."

REPATRIATION SHUTTLE: "LONGSHOT."

CARGO: C-12 MINE REVOLT SURVIVORS.

DESTINATION: PENAL FACILITY H-3. "THE RIG."

ONLINE AGIAN, HUH?

LOOK, BIG GUY—WE NEED YOUR HELP...

...WE BOTH SAW WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF.

THAT WAS... UNINTENT ONAL. I SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

WHATEVER.

HEH... LOOKS LIKE THESE GUYS GOT NO RESPECT FOR *INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT.*

HEY, BOZO!

WHADDYA WANT, SQUIRT?

OH, JUST YOUR...

...ATTENT.ON!

UNF!

GAH... C'MERE!

UHMM... BEHIND YOU?

I AM *NOT* GONNA FALL FOR *THAT.*

HAH! WHERE WERE WE?

LONGSHOT, PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR DEVIATION FROM FLIGHT PLAN.

LONGSHOT?

SENATOR— THE PRISONER TRANSPORT SHUTTLE—IT'S LEAVING ITS COURSE.

AND DOING WHAT?

COMING ABOUT, SIR

LONGSHOT— THE SENATE THANKS EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION.

SLHRAAVK SLHRAAVK

KAON. THE WORST PLACE ON CYBERTRON.

"WHY DIDN'T YOU BURN THEM?"

"THINK ABOUT IT—RIGHT NOW THEIR FIRST PRIORITY WILL BE TO **SEARCH FOR AND RESCUE** THEIR PRECIOUS, WOUNDED **SENATOR**...

"...IF IT'S DESTROYED, THEIR FIRST PRIORITY WOULD BE **HUNTING US.**"

"SO WHAT NOW?"

"NOW...

...WE DISAPPEAR."

SECURITY SERVICES HQ, *KAON.*

SENTINAL PRIME, SIR, WE'VE JUST GOTTEN A REPORT OF A BETA-GRADE INCIDENT IN OUR AIRSPACE. WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH A SHUTTLE AND ANOTHER IS DOWN.

DON'T WASTE MY TIME, PROWL—YOU KNOW PROTOCOL BETTER THAN ANYONE—SO FOLLOW IT.

KA-TOW KA-TOW KA-TOW

NORMALLY I WOULDN'T... INTRUDE, SIR. BUT... THIS INVOLVES A LIFE-THREATENING ATTACK ON A SENATOR. IT'S POLICY—SIR?

SIR...? THE SENATE...

KA-TOW KA-TOW KA-TOW

LIFE-THREATENING... FATAL?

ALL WE HAVE AT THIS TIME IS A DISTRESS BEACON, LOCATION, VELOCITY. I'VE SCRAMBLED RESPONSE.

JUST PRIOR, THERE WERE REPORTS OF A DISTURBANCE AT AN OFF-PLANET FACILITY...

FINE—THEN YOU TAKE IT. I DON'T HAVE THE STRUTS TO DEAL WITH ANOTHER WHINING SENATOR—IF THEY GAVE ME WHAT I NEED RATHER THAN TOLD ME HOW TO—

I'LL HAVE A REPORT ASAP, SIR. AND I'LL MAKE SURE THE SENATE IS KEPT UP TO DATE.

AND OUT OF THE WAY.

WHATEVER IT IS...

...I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING.

COMPARED TO *DOWN HERE.*

TO BE CONTINUED.